



Welcome Families to the year of Sacramental Preparation!

I am very excited to welcome you to a year of formation, engagement, prayer and celebration. It is my pleasure to share with you the excellent preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Oftentimes, these sacraments are filled with images of parties and books to complete. Not to diminish those images, I would like to offer a new image as well to you. The image is your child's face filled with the wonder and awe of receiving God's mercy and love in these precious sacramental moments. The best image is that these sacramental moments are ours for life; not just in that one moment. So in order to prepare our children and ourselves, you are invited to attend one of the following sacramental programs that this office is offering:

Reconciliation- October 5- 10:30am **OR** at 6pm in the Church- you must attend one session

Holy Communion- February 1- 10:30am **OR** at 6pm in the Church- you must attend one session

These sessions are critical in order that you can spend time in prayer and reflection on the importance and meaning of these sacraments so that you can make the encounter for your child that much more meaningful and important. This evening is for YOU! Your child will be receiving the catechesis during School/RE classes. This session is to help you so that you can spend time with your child in prayer and preparation through Church participation.

Please note that in order to begin this sacramental process, you must complete the online registration form via this link: <https://form.jotform.com/61545226060145> The payment for the costs associated with both sacraments is \$80. This fee covers all costs associated with sacramental preparation. Checks can be submitted via mail or dropped off at the office during school hours. Checks should be made out to St. John the Beloved. The online registration form and check are due by September 30.

If you or your family have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Ballintyn via dballintyn@sjbde.org. May these last days of August bring you and your family much joy and happiness.

With gratitude and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dolores V. Ballintyn', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dolores V. Ballintyn, MRE
Director of Religious Education